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ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania

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ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

The General Division of Research and Field Study did not receive a Church Self-Study Form or Episcopal Census from this parish. A membership map, however, which is of some help in our analysis, was turned in. The paucity of data submitted limits the value of the following report.

THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

This historic church is located in the heart of the downtown district of the City of Philadelphia, at 19 South Tenth Street, between Market and Chestnut Streets. The Greater Philadelphia Area is divided into census tracts for United States census purposes. This parish church is located in Census Tract #9-A. For the purposes of this Study four other contiguous census tracts have been arbitrarily assigned to make up a parish area.

The United States Census Bureau did not provide data for 1950 for four of the census tracts in the arbitrarily assigned parish area. Referring to the table below, there was a population decrease of 59.2% in the decade of 1950 to 1960 in Census Tract #6-A.

In 1960 4,088 persons lived in the parish area, of which 8.4% was 14 years of age and under, 17.4% was 65 years of age and over, and 19.4% was non-white.

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CENSUS TRACT	POPULATION		% CHANGE	% 14 & UNDER	% 65 & UNDER	% NON-WHITE
	1950	1960				
#9-A	NA	71		2.8	11.3	11.3
8-A	NA	286		3.5	21.0	2.4
10-A	NA	1,735		10.2	22.0	35.3
9-B	NA	1,575		4.4	12.5	1.7
6-A	1,031	421	-59.2	20.2	15.4	33.3
TOTAL		4,088		8.4	17.4	19.4

The 1960 United States Census reported other characteristics of the general population in the arbitrarily assigned parish area and they will be found in the ensuing table.

CENSUS TRACT	NON-WHITE POPULATION		% CHANGE	PUERTO RICAN 1960	MEDIAN RESIDENCE FAMILY SAME AS 1955 INCOME	1960 %
	1950	1960				
#9-A	NA	8		0	NA	19.7
8-A	NA	7		0	NA	36.0
10-A	NA	612		3	NA	70.3
9-B	NA	27		0	\$8,500	29.4
6-A	288	140	-51.4	0	NA	62.9
TOTAL		794		3=0.07 of Total Population		

The next table shows the educational and median age characteristics of the 1960 population of the parish area.

		ED. OF ADULTS 25 YRS. OF AGE & OVER					
CENSUS	%	%	%	OVER	MED	MED	
TRACT	H.S. GRAD. COLL.	1-3 YRS. COLL.	GRAD.	25	ED.	M AGE	F
#9-A		19.4	7.5	67	NA	47.8	NA
8-A	21.2	5.1	6.6	273	9.0	51.6	43.7
10-A	6.1	1.6	1.8	1,497	6.8	54.6	40.0
9-B	26.8	20.3	18.9	1,210	12.6	39.4	42.1
6-A	8.7	9.4	11.0	309	8.1	46.3	42.1

From the chart below we see that 127 persons or 3.1% of the population of 4,088 in the assigned parish area look to the Episcopal Church for spiritual guidance. This is in line with the diocesan ratio of 3.2% and compares favorably with the 1.8% Episcopal Church national ratio.

Of the total number of Episcopalians living in the arbitrarily assigned parish area, 19, or 15% regard St. Stephen's as their church home. Of the total reported membership of 357, only 4.7% live in the assigned parish area. Due to its unique Healing Ministry which affects people not only in the City of Philadelphia but also in the State of Pennsylvania and in fact across the nation, it is safe to say that St. Stephen's Church is not a church that serves only its immediate geographical area. The General Division of Research and Field Study calls the attention of the parish leaders for instance, to the information contained in the three tables above and in the one table below concerning Census Tract #9-B. Urban Renewal is already becoming a part of the Downtown Philadelphia Area. Its impact on the City of Philadelphia and St. Stephen's Church is really not shown in the 1960 United States Census. As St. Stephen's looks to the future, the present parish leadership needs to ponder the question why only 1.7% of its parish membership resides in Census Tract #9-B.

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CENSUS TRACT	TOTAL POP.	TOTAL EPIS.	% OF POP. EPIS.	TOTAL PARISH MEMB.	% EPIS. MEMB.	% PARISH MEMB.
#9-A	71	7	9.9	6	85.7	1.4
8-A	286	17	5.9	5	29.4	1.3
10-A	1,735	3	0.2	1	33.3	0.3
9-B	1,575	85	5.4	7	8.2	1.7
6-A	421	15	3.6	0		
TOTAL	4,088	127	3.1	19	15.0	4.7

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THE CHURCH PROGRAM

Since a Church Self-Study Form was not submitted, it is impossible to comment upon or make an analysis of the church's program. This is unfortunate because of the history of St. Stephen's Church and its unique Healing Ministry. It would have been extremely worthwhile to examine carefully all aspects of the program of this parish church and its outreach. Perhaps, in the future this can be done.

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION TABLE

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PARISH PHILADELPHIA

ST STEPHENS

CENSUS TRACT OR AREA	NUMBER OF MAPPED MEMBERS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MAPPED MEMBERSHIP
15E	1	3
18A	2	6
18B	2	6
19A	1	3
19B	1	3
20B	1	3
20D	1	3
20E	1	3
21K	3	7
21T	1	3
22D	1	3
22E	1	3
22F	1	3
22K	1	3
22L	2	6
22N	2	6
22P	2	6
23E	2	6
23F	2	6
23G	2	6
23H	2	6
23I	2	6
24B	2	6
24C	2	6
24D	2	6
24F	2	6
24G	2	6
24H	2	6
24I	2	6
24K	2	6
25A	3	7
25B	2	6
25C	2	6
25D	2	6
26A	2	6
26C	1	3
26D	1	3
26E	1	3
26F	1	3
27A	2	6
27B	2	6
27C	2	6
27E	2	6
28A	1	3
28B	1	3
28C	1	3
30A	2	6
30C	2	6
31A	2	6
31B	2	6
32C	1	3
33B	2	6
33C	2	6
33D	2	6
33E	2	6

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION TABLE

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PARISH

CENSUS TRACT OR AREA	NUMBER OF MAPPED MEMBERS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MAPPED MEMBERSHIP
33F	1	3
33G	1	3
33I	2	6
33J	1	3
34S	1	3
35F	1	3
35G	2	6
37B	1	3
37F	1	3
38A	1	3
38C	1	3
38D	1	3
38E	1	3
38F	2	6
38G	1	3
38H	1	3
38I	1	3
38J	1	3
39C	1	3
39D	1	3
40B	3	7
40C	3	7
40F	3	7
40J	1	3
41H	1	3
41K	3	7
42A	1	3
42B	1	3
42C	1	3
42D	1	3
42E	1	3
42F	1	3
42G	1	3
42H	1	3
42I	1	3
43A	1	3
43B	1	3
43C	1	3
43D	1	3
43E	1	3
43F	1	3
44A	2	6
47A	1	3
47D	1	3
48A	1	3
48B	1	3
48C	1	3
49D	1	3
49E	1	3
49G	1	3
49H	2	6
50B	2	6
50C	3	7
50D	2	6
50E	2	6

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION TABLE

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PARISH

CENSUS TRACT OR AREA	NUMBER OF MAPPED MEMBERS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MAPPED MEMBERSHIP
50 K	3	7
50 N	2	6
52 B	1	3
52 C	2	6
52 D	2	6
52 F	2	6
52 G	2	6
52 H	2	6
52 I	2	6
54 C	1	3
56 H	2	6
56 I	2	6
56 J	2	6
56 K	2	6
57 B	2	6
57 H	4	11
59 A	2	6
59 B	2	6
59 C	2	6
59 D	2	6
59 E	2	6
59 F	2	6
59 G	2	6
59 H	1	3
59 I	1	3
59 J	1	3
59 K	1	3
59 L	1	3
59 P	3	7
1 B	1	3
1 C	1	3
2 B	1	3
3 B	1	3
4 B	1	3
5 A	3	7
7 A	5	13
7 C	7	17
8 A	5	13
8 B	5	13
8 C	7	17
8 D	7	17
X 9 A	6	14
9 B	7	17
10 A	1	3
10 B	1	3
15 A	1	3
15 B	1	3
IN STATE	42	113
OUT STATE	33	88
	357	1000

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REPORTED MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL DATA FROM JOURNALS

For the purposes of this Study, the Vital Statistics of St. Stephen's Church have been gathered from the Diocesan Journals of the Diocese of Pennsylvania for every fifth year from 1940 through 1960, and then yearly from 1961 through 1963.

In the decade of 1950 to 1960 the baptized membership of St. Stephen's decreased 40% to a reported 420 baptized persons. The Central Philadelphia Area churches report a similar (13.1%) decline in baptized membership from 1950 to 1960. From 1961 to 1963 inclusive, there was a slight up-turn in baptisms at St. Stephen's.

The communicant membership of St. Stephen's declined 27%, to 398 communicants, from 1950 to 1960. This again is in line with the Central Philadelphia Area churches experience of a decline of -20% in the same decade. From 1961 through 1963, inclusive, there was a slight increase in communicant membership at St. Stephen's.

From 1950 to 1960 the church school membership increased 20%, to 60 members at St. Stephen's. For the same period of time the Central Philadelphia Area churches report a similar increase (28.3%). According to the reports in the Diocesan Journals, the church school membership at St. Stephen's has remained static, at 60 enrollees.

From 1961 through 1963 inclusive, 25 persons were baptized at St. Stephen's and this represented a 2% ratio of the communicant strength. The ratio in the Diocese of Pennsylvania

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is 3.9% and in the Episcopal Church nationally 5.5%. From 1961 through 1963, inclusive, there were 26 persons confirmed at St. Stephen's Church and this represented 2.1% of the communicant membership. The ratio in the diocese is 4.1% and in the Episcopal Church nationally 5.8%.

From 1961 through 1963, inclusive, St. Stephen's reported total expenditures of \$263,333.00, of which \$32,864.00, or 12½%, was used for extra-parochial expenses. This is slightly below the diocesan ratio of 14.2% and slightly above the ratio (11.3%) of all the Philadelphia churches.

The average expenditures per communicant from 1961 through 1963 were \$208.00, of which \$25.96 was for extra-parochial expense. This is exceedingly high when compared to the averages for all of the Philadelphia churches (\$88.66 and \$10.02) and the diocesan averages (\$73.71 and \$10.45).

VITAL STATISTICS

PARISH ST. STEPHEN
COUNTY PHILADELPHIA

TOWN PHILADELPHIA
DIOCESE PENNSYLVANIA

	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962	1963
Baptized Members	485	422	700	475	420	427	452	452
Communicants	408	312	545	452	398	405	432	429
Church School	82	38	50	31	60	60	60	60
Baptisms	11	12	18	15	2	11	11	3
Percentage of Communicants	2.7	3.8	3.3	3.3	0.5	2.7	2.5	0.7
Confirmations	12	17	48	8	11	12	9	5
Percentage of Communicants	2.9	5.4	8.8	1.8	2.8	3.0	2.1	1.2
Parochial Expenditures 1	31,259	24,742	28,320	36,570	61,403	58,889	59,811	57,789
Special Par. Expenditures 2	8,536	18,302	17,512	20,716	34,574	16,948	20,934	16,098
Extra-parochial Expenditures 3	4,705	8,339	9,986	9,636	16,012	10,349	11,282	11,233
Total Reported Expenditures	44,500	51,383	55,818	66,922	111,989	86,186	92,027	85,120
Expenditures per Communicant	109.07	164.69	102.42	148.06	281.38	212.80	213.03	198.41
Extra-parochial Expenditures per Communicant	11.53	26.73	18.32	21.32	40.23	25.55	26.12	26.18

- 1 Includes clergy salary, current expense, pension premium, and Diocesan assessment.
- 2 Special parish purposes, including capital expenditures.
- 3 Includes Church's Program, special outside.

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DATA ON THE CONGREGATION

Since there was no Episcopal Census submitted, the General Division of Research and Field Study is unable to comment thereon.

DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Since St. Stephen's Church submitted no Church Self-Study Form or Episcopal Census, it is not possible to offer any recommendations at the present time. If St. Stephen's Church desires to complete its Study, the General Division of Research and Field Study is ready to make an analysis and offer recommendations as time permits.

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